

# State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 North Carolina women have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives according to the NC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina rape cost victims over \$1 billion in 2004-05 fiscal year considering factors such as medical cost, lost earnings, pain, suffering and lost quality of life according to the U.S. Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina rape crisis centers served over 7,300 individuals, including 2,700 children under the age of 18 according to the NC Council for Women, 2007; and

WHEREAS, over 25,000 hotline calls were received by NC rape crisis centers in 2007 according to the NC Council for Women; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault displayed one of the greatest percentage increases from 62 to 78 (+25.8%) in reported incidents/acts of school violence according to the NC Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Center for Prevention of School Violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim April 2008, as "**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina. I encourage all citizens to speak out against sexual assault and support their local communities' efforts to provide services to victims of this heinous crime.



*Michael F. Easley*  
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-eighth day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.